

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

April 3, 2009

The Honorable Norm Dicks
Chairman
House Appropriations Subcommittee
On Interior, Environment and
Related Agencies
B-308 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mike Simpson
Ranking Member
House Appropriations Subcommittee
On Interior, Environment and
Related Agencies
1016 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Dicks and Ranking Member Simpson:

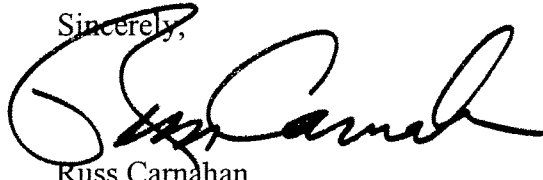
We are writing to respectfully request \$800,000 in the FY2010 Interior Appropriations bill to fund the Historic American Landscapes Survey (HALS). The program was established by the National Park Service (NPS) in 2000 under authority granted in the Historic Sites, Buildings, and Antiquities Act of 1935 and the National Preservation Act of 1966.

The purpose of HALS is to document landscapes that serve as tangible evidence of our nation's heritage and development. Historic landscapes are special places that are important representations of national, regional, and local identity and culture. They are also fragile places that are affected by the forces of nature, by commercial and residential development, and by vandalism and neglect. They undergo changes that are often unpredictable and irreversible. For these reasons, it is important to document these places so the stories they tell can educate and benefit future generations. HALS does not limit development, affect property rights, or involve the purchase of land.

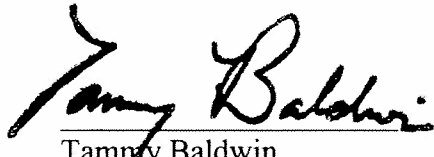
During the past 20 years, historic preservation has broadened beyond the historic building or urban district to include the historic landscape that provides the setting and context for a property. From carriage roads to Revolutionary and Civil War battlefields, designed gardens to the American ranch and homesteads, urban parks and plazas to industrial complexes, these landscapes represent the impact of the landscape on human beliefs and actions over time. We believe that \$800,000 is a small price to pay for the preservation of these stories for future generations.

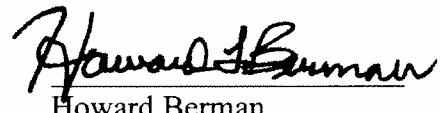
If you need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me, or Ken Reidy on my staff at 225-2671 or ken.reidy@mail.house.gov.


Sincerely,

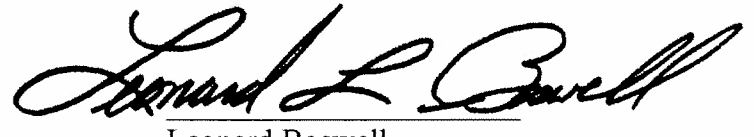
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Russ Carnahan", written over a horizontal line.

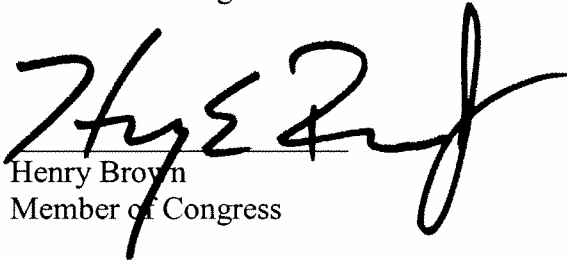
Russ Carnahan
Member of Congress



Tammy Baldwin
Member of Congress



Howard Berman
Member of Congress



Earl Blumenauer
Member of Congress


Leonard Boswell
Member of Congress



Henry Brown
Member of Congress



Lois Capps
Member of Congress

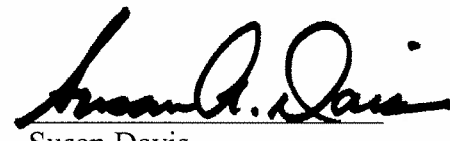

Michael Capuano
Member of Congress



Wm. Lacy Clay
Member of Congress

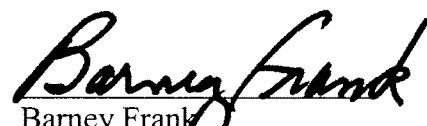

John Conyers
Member of Congress


Elijah Cummings
Member of Congress


Kathy Dahlkemper
Member of Congress


Susan Davis
Member of Congress


Bill Delahunt
Member of Congress

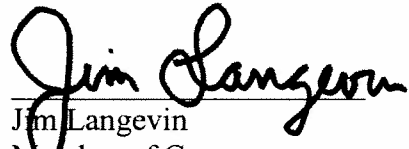

Barney Frank
Member of Congress


Charles Gonzalez
Member of Congress


Mary Jo Kilroy
Member of Congress



Ron Kind
Member of Congress



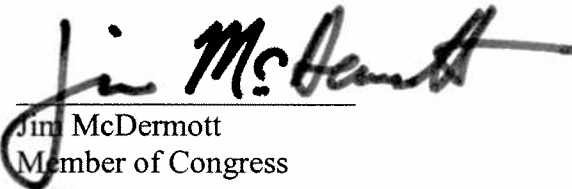
Jim Langevin
Member of Congress



Dan Maffei
Member of Congress



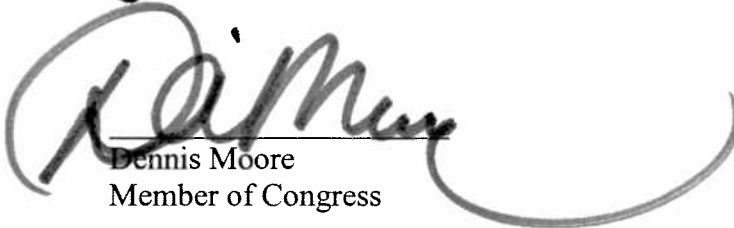
Jim Matheson
Member of Congress



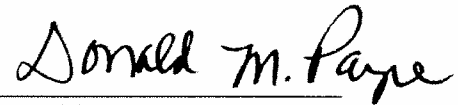
Jim McDermott
Member of Congress



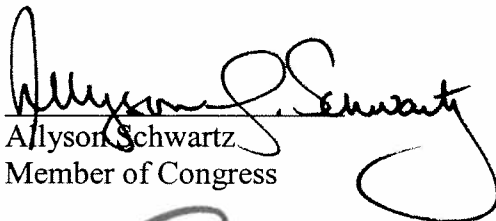
Brad Miller
Member of Congress



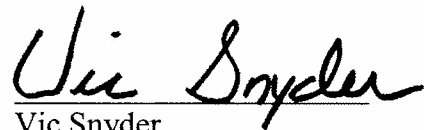
Dennis Moore
Member of Congress



Donald Payne
Member of Congress



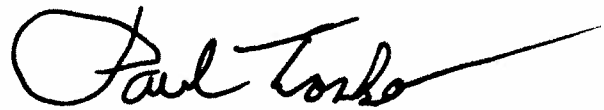
Allyson Schwartz
Member of Congress



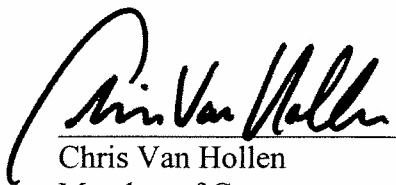
Vic Snyder
Member of Congress



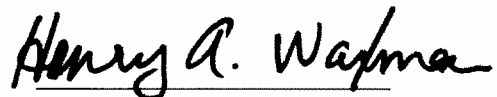
Ellen Tauscher
Member of Congress



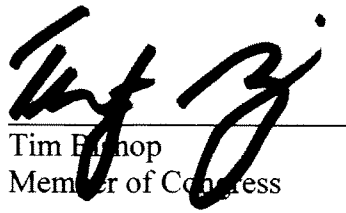
Paul Tonko
Member of Congress



Chris Van Hollen
Member of Congress



Henry Waxman
Member of Congress



Tim Bishop
Member of Congress